

APPENDIX A: MARKED UP SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph on page 7, lines 23-27:

--FIG. 2 depicts a front elevation of the arm 11 of the clamp having the hook or latch, where the hinge 13 of FIG. 1 has been cut in cross-section. The teeth 14 are used to clamp on the umbilical cord or other fluid-containing vessel when the arms of the clamp are urged toward each other and the clamp is locked in the closed position. The underside of the thumb wing 17 is visible, as are the top of the tongue 18 and the tip 22 thereof. In an embodiment shown here, the thumb wing 17 is separate and distinct from the outwardly-flared portion at the free forward end of each arm.--

APPENDIX B: MARKED UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

1. (Amended) An umbilical cord clamp comprising:
a pair of arms each having a length in a generally V-shaped configuration
having rear end portions associated at an apex and having free forward end portions normally
disposed in spaced-apart relation and being movable towards each other for clamping an
umbilical cord between the arms;

a flared portion at the end of each arm;

a grasping portion that is disposed on each arm transversely to the length
thereof, which is distinct from the flared portion on that arm and which is [and] sufficiently
sized and shaped to receive a finger or tool so as to facilitate grasping and closing of the
clamp; and

a locking portion for securing the arms together when the clamp is closed.

8. (Amended) The clamp of claim 1, wherein each grasping portion is
disposed closer to the free end than the rear end up to about 80 percent of the distance from
the rear end to the free end and comprises a single portion integrally formed with at least the
arms of the clamp.

12. (Amended) An umbilical cord clamp comprising:

a pair of arms each having a length in a generally V-shaped configuration
having rear end portions joined together at the apex thereof and having free forward end
portions normally disposed in spaced-apart relation and being movable towards each other for
clamping an umbilical cord between the arms;

a channel that extends substantially along the length of at least one arm and is
open at the free end portion thereof to facilitate the escape of fluid therefrom when the clamp
is closed; and

a locking portion for securing the arms together when the clamp is closed.

17. (Amended) An umbilical cord clamp comprising:

a pair of arms each having a length in a generally V-shaped configuration
having rear end portions joined together at the apex thereof and having free forward end
portions normally disposed in spaced-apart relation and being movable towards each other for
clamping an umbilical cord between the arms;

identification means comprising a gender-identifying color associated with a portion of the clamp to facilitate identification of the gender of the baby [for identifying the baby]; and

a locking portion for securing the arms together when the clamp is closed.

18. (Amended) The clamp of claim 17, wherein the gender-identifying color includes blue for a boy and pink for a girl [identification means is a color with blue being the preferred color for a boy and pink being the preferred color for a girl].

19. (Amended) The clamp of claim 17, wherein the [identification means is a color and at least a portion of the clamp or the] entire clamp comprises one or more shades of the color.

20. (Amended) The clamp of claim 17 [claim 19], wherein the color is visibly imbued within or painted upon the clamp.

21. (Amended) The clamp of claim 17, wherein the identification means further comprises an [wherein the identification means comprises] alpha-numeric indicia, security apparatus, or a bar code to inhibit or prevent unauthorized removal of the baby from a pre-defined area.

22. (Amended) The clamp of claim 18, wherein a portion of the clamp is blue and the remainder is a neutral color for a boy and a portion of the clamp is pink and the remainder is a neutral color for a girl [claim 21, wherein the identification means further comprises a color].

23. (Amended) A method of identifying the gender of a newborn baby which comprises applying the clamp of claim 17 and visually analyzing the identification means to determine the gender of the baby.

24. (Amended) A method of identifying a newborn baby which comprises applying the clamp of claim 21 [claim 17] and analyzing the identification means to determine the mother of the newborn so as to minimize the chance of misidentification of the baby or the mother thereof.

25. (Amended) A method of inhibiting or preventing unauthorized removal of a newborn baby from a pre-defined area [identifying a newborn baby] which comprises applying the clamp of claim 21; [claim 17 and] analyzing the identification means to determine at least the date and time of birth of the baby; and permitting only an authorized person to remove the baby from the pre-defined area.

APPENDIX C: PENDING CLAIMS

1. (Amended) An umbilical cord clamp comprising:
a pair of arms each having a length in a generally V-shaped configuration
having rear end portions associated at an apex and having free forward end portions normally
disposed in spaced-apart relation and being movable towards each other for clamping an
umbilical cord between the arms;
a flared portion at the end of each arm;
a grasping portion that is disposed on each arm transversely to the length
thereof, which is distinct from the flared portion on that arm and which is sufficiently sized
and shaped to receive a finger or tool so as to facilitate grasping and closing of the clamp; and
a locking portion for securing the arms together when the clamp is closed.
2. The clamp of claim 1, wherein the rear end portions are joined by an
integral hinge.
3. The clamp of claim 1, wherein the locking portion comprises:
a flexible tongue at the forward end of one of the arms that projects towards
the other arm in the general direction of closing movement of the arm; and
a recess at the forward end of the other arm for receiving the tongue and
having a pair of transversely-spaced projections extending into the recess from opposite sides
thereof,
wherein the tongue has a tip portion and the projections define a pair of
forwardly sloping ramp surfaces engagable with the tip portion for flexing the tongue
forwardly as the arms are urged together, the tongue having a pair of lateral notches adjacent
the tip portion for receiving the pair of projections when the tip portion has cleared the ramp
surfaces and the clamp is fully closed.
4. The clamp of claim 3, wherein the projections of the other arm have
undersurfaces that slope forwardly and away from the one arm.
5. The clamp of claim 3, wherein the projections extend forwardly a
distance greater than the thickness of the tongue, the projections extending forwardly through
the notches beyond the tongue when the clamp is closed.

6. The clamp of claim 3, wherein the tip portion has rounded rear edges when viewed in transverse section.

7. The clamp of claim 3, wherein the recess opens forwardly and has a width greater than the width of the tongue, and wherein the sides of the recess are slidably engagable with the tongue for guiding the same into locking position as the clamp is closed.

8. (Amended) The clamp of claim 1, wherein each grasping portion is disposed closer to the free end than the rear end up to about 80 percent of the distance from the rear end to the free end and comprises a single portion integrally formed with at least the arms of the clamp.

9. The clamp of claim 1, wherein each grasping portion is at least about two-thirds of the distance from the rear end portion to the free forward end.

10. The clamp of claim 1, wherein each grasping portion is outwardly concave so as to facilitate receiving the finger or tool being used to grasp the clamp.

11. The clamp of claim 1, wherein each grasping portion is at least 1.5 times as wide as a width of the arm and has a length of at least about 0.5 cm.

12. (Amended) An umbilical cord clamp comprising:
a pair of arms each having a length in a generally V-shaped configuration having rear end portions joined together at the apex thereof and having free forward end portions normally disposed in spaced-apart relation and being movable towards each other for clamping an umbilical cord between the arms;

a channel that extends substantially along the length of at least one arm and is open at the free end portion thereof to facilitate the escape of fluid therefrom when the clamp is closed; and

a locking portion for securing the arms together when the clamp is closed.

13. The clamp of claim 12, wherein a channel extends substantially along the length of each arm.

14. The clamp of claim 12, wherein the channel has a width of about 1/4 to 1/2 of a width of each arm.

15. The clamp of claim 12, wherein the depth of the channel increases toward each open end.

16. The clamp of claim 12, wherein the locking portion is at the free forward ends of the arms, a lateral groove is disposed between the teeth and the tongue, and the channel is open to the lateral groove.

17. (Amended) An umbilical cord clamp comprising:
a pair of arms each having a length in a generally V-shaped configuration having rear end portions joined together at the apex thereof and having free forward end portions normally disposed in spaced-apart relation and being movable towards each other for clamping an umbilical cord between the arms;
identification means comprising a gender-identifying color associated with a portion of the clamp to facilitate identification of the gender of the baby; and
a locking portion for securing the arms together when the clamp is closed.

18. (Amended) The clamp of claim 17, wherein the gender-identifying color includes blue for a boy and pink for a girl.

19. (Amended) The clamp of claim 17, wherein the entire clamp comprises one or more shades of the color.

20. (Amended) The clamp of claim 17, wherein the color is visibly imbued within or painted upon the clamp.

21. (Amended) The clamp of claim 17, wherein the identification means further comprises an alpha-numeric indicia, security apparatus, or a bar code to inhibit or prevent unauthorized removal of the baby from a pre-defined area.

22. (Amended) The clamp of claim 18, wherein a portion of the clamp is blue and the remainder is a neutral color for a boy and a portion of the clamp is pink and the remainder is a neutral color for a girl.

23. (Amended) A method of identifying the gender of a newborn baby which comprises applying the clamp of claim 17 and visually analyzing the identification means to determine the gender of the baby.

24. (Amended) A method of identifying a newborn baby which comprises applying the clamp of claim 21 and analyzing the identification means to determine the mother of the newborn so as to minimize the chance of misidentification of the baby or the mother thereof.

25. (Amended) A method of inhibiting or preventing unauthorized removal of a newborn baby from a pre-defined area which comprises applying the clamp of claim 21; analyzing the identification means to determine at least the date and time of birth of the baby; and permitting only an authorized person to remove the baby from the pre-defined area.